

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 OIC-04 AEC-11 ACDA-19 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 H-03

NSC-10 SS-15 RSR-01 /157 W

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R 251540Z JUL 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 935

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3160

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3512

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR-BELGIAN PAPER ON SUBSTANCE

REF: USNATO 3343

SUMMARY: BELGIAN PERMREP BRIEFLY INTRODUCED PAPER ON SUBSTANCE
FO MBFR AT JULY 25 COUNCIL MEETING. (TEXT OF BELGIAN PAPER
REFTEL. MODIFICATIONS POUCHED). UK PERMREP ANNOUNCED THAT HE
HOPED PRESENT SUBSTANTIVE PAPER EARLY IN WEEK OF JULY 30. CHARGE
ADVISED WE EXPECTED U.S. PAPER SHORTLY AND SAID WE MIGHT WISH
CALL SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING TO INTRODUCE IT. END SUMMARY.

1. INTRODUCING MBFR PAPER, BELGIAN PERMREP (DE STAERCKE)
STRESSED THAT IT WAS ONE CONTRIBUTION AMONG OTHERS TO ALLIED
STUDIES. HE NOTED THAT PAPER WAS LIMITED TO GROUND TROOPS
ONLY AND DID NOT ADDRESS SUBJECT OF EQUIPMENT. REFERRING TO
U.S. PAPER OF APRIL 30, 1973, DE STAERCKE OBSERVED THAT THIRD
OPTION (MIXED PACKAGE) WAS REGARDED AS COMPLEMENT TO EITHER
OPTION ONE OR OPTION TWO AND FOR THIS REASON WAS NOT DISCUSSED
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IN BELGIAN PAPER. LATTER, HE SAID, SOUGHT TO COMBINE OPTIONS
ONE AND TWO OF U.S. PAPER. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE SAID BELGIAN
PAPER WAS CONSISTENT WITH SECOND SECTION OF PARA 9 OF MBFR
GUIDELINES IN THAT IT ENVISAGES RELATIVELY LONG PERIOD OF TIME

BETWEEN TWO STAGES REDUCTIONS. HE ALSO STRESSED THAT BELGIAN PAPER WAS CONSISTENT WITH BASIC POSITION THAT SUBSTANTIAL CUTS SHOULD BE SOUGHT IN SOVIET STATIONED FORCES. BELGIAN PAPER, HE ADDED, HAD ADVANTAGE OF ALLOWING ALLIES TO DISTRIBUTE REDUCTIONS AGREED UNDER SECOND STATE OF NEGOTIATIONS AMONG ALL FORCES EXCEPT THOSE OF U.S., GIVING ALLIES GREAT FLEXIBILITY. IN CONCLUSION, DE STAERCKE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT BELGIAN PAPER PROVIDED FOR "ZONAL" CEILING ON TROOPS REMAINING IN REDUCTION ZONE FOLLOWING SECOND STAGE OF CUTS PLUS SUBCEILING ON U.S. AND SOVIET TROOPS "ANALAGOUS TO SUBCEILING ON SS-9'S IN SALT." THIS, IN BELGIAN VIEW, WOULD SAFEGUARD TO GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE THE PREROGATIVES OF A FUTURE EUROPEAN ARMED FORCE.

2. SYG LUNS WELCOMED BELGIAN PAPER AND SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO ITS SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION IN COUNCIL AND SPC. UK PERMREP (PECK) ADVISED THAT UK SUBSTANTIVE PAPER WAS IN FINAL STAGE OF APPROVAL IN LONDON AND HE HOPED BE ABLE CIRCULATE IT EARLY DURING WEEK OF JULY 30.

3. IN RESPONSE TO LUNS' QUESTION REGARDING U.S. PAPER, U.S. REP (MCAULIFFE) SAID WE HOPE BE IN POSITION CIRCULATE IT IN MATTER OF DAYS AND ADDED THAT WE MIGH WISH CALL SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FOR THIS PURPOSE.
MCAULIFFE.

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